



JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DOYLE OPENS FALUN DAFA PHOTO EXHIBIT AT GRIA

County Executive Jack Doyle today opened a photo exhibit in the gallery at the Greater Rochester International Airport (GRIA) entitled "Truth, Compassion, and Tolerance -- the Journey of Falun Dafa."

"Monroe County is very pleased to host this unique and moving exhibit at the airport," said Doyle. "In 1776, our great nation was founded with religious freedom as a cornerstone of our democracy and this exhibit shows how that most basic civil right remains unfulfilled in a totalitarian state in 2001."

About 50 photos will be displayed at the month-long GRIA exhibition. These photos capture the beginning of Falun Dafa's (Falun Gong) public introduction in 1992, by its founder, Mr. Li Hongzhi, and its ever-growing popularity as people from all walks of life discover greater health and spiritual well being through this traditional Chinese self-cultivation practice.

The exhibit also offers rare insights into the brutal persecution that the totalitarian Chinese regime has used to defame and destroy the practice of Falun Dafa after July 20, 1999. It documents how Falun Dafa practitioners, both in and outside of China, have displayed uncommon courage and inner strength based on the principles of "Truth, Compassion, and Tolerance" to withstand this state-sanctioned campaign against the civil rights of Falun Dafa practitioners in Communist China.

The unique exhibit, organized by local Falun Dafa practitioners and the Friends of Falun Gong (a US-based non-profit organization) is the first large-scale public photo exhibition in the United States documenting the development of Falun Dafa over the past nine years.

County Executive Jack Doyle has proclaimed December 2001 to be "Truth, Compassion, and Tolerance Month" to encourage the community to recognize local Falun Dafa practitioners.

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For further information, call:

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